English Trade Unions The fact that the largest Trades Union Congrees ever held is now sitting at Liverpool renders time'y the publication of a history o abor organizations in Great Britain. The Con-Mets of Capital and Labor, by Gronor How-ELL, M. P. (Macmillans), is, as the sub-title indieates, a review of the origin, progress, confitution, and alms of the British trade unions. It is a second and revised edition of a work eriginally published about twelve years ago, but which needed to be rewritten, owing to the tormous changes which have taken place in the public attitude toward industrial questions and in the attitude of a large fraction of the trade unionists themselves. The author's point of view is not that of the new trade unionists so-called, whose advanced section is emposed of socialists, and all of whom are inelined to look to the State for aid. favoring. for example, the enactment of an eight-hour law. He belongs rather to the old-fashioned trade unionists, who have hitherto been dominant in trade congresses, and who be Maye that workmen should rely rather upon voluntary combination and mutual coopera tion than upon Government Interposition. He holds, moreover, that force is no remedy in the organization of labor any more than it is in the organization of the State, and that unionists have no more right to compel men to belong to a trade union than employers have to restrain workmen from joining a union or remaining in it. In a word, Mr. Howell would now b classed as a conservative in the ranks of labor. although twelve years ago he was accounted an extreme radical. On all sides, however, he is seknowledged the highest authority on the subjest which he discusses in this volume. In deed, the appearance of the first edition of this

book was coincident with the revolution in

English public opinion regarding the legiti-

macy of trade organizations.

The modern trade unions are not continua tions of the medieval craft guilds, but should rather be described as successors of the latter adapted to new conditions, social and industrial. They came into existence when the English community ceased to observe the regmistions which after the dissolution of the old guilds, were made for the protection of labor. The chief of these regulations were embodied in the famous statute concerning apprentices nessed in the fifth year of Elizabeth, and in Sended to apply to all trades practised at that time anywhere in England, though subsequently narrowed by judicial interpretation to sities, towns corporate, and market towns The principal features of this statute were the following: (1) No one could exercise any handleraft, unless he had been brought up in it for at least seven years as an apprentice. (2) Whoever had three apprentices must keep one journeyman, and for every other apprentice above three one other journeyman. (3) No journeyman could be employed for a shorter period than one year, or discharged at all unless upon a quarter's warning. (4) The hours of labor were fixed at about twelve in summer, and from daybreak until sunset in winter. 5. Wages were to be assessed yearly by the Justices of the Peace in the country and by the municipal magistrates in towns. The same authorities were to settle all dis putes between masters and apprentices, and to protect the latter. So long as these regula-tions were carried out the position of the workmen was secure and, on the whole, satisfactory. The long term of service assured that which workmen above everything desiredregularity of employment. Moreover, the nagistrates, according to the intention of the act, were to so assess wages as to "rield unto the hired person both in the time of scarcity and in the time of plenty a convenient proportion of wages." Again, the fixed hours of labor were for that time not excessive, especially as the manner of working was not then so exhaustive as it is now. Finally, the restrictions men from being lowered to the level of common laborers through unlimited competition.

Trade unions originated, as we have said

with the non-observance of these equitable

regulations. In the woollen manufactures

for example, the old staple trade of England.

the Justices fixed the rate of wages in 1720.

but their assessment was not carried out in practice. The disappearance of a legal rate of wages led to oppression of the workmen by the masters, and this oppression caused the workmen temporarily to combine. Five sears later combinations of workmen employed in woollen manufactures were prohibited, and in the following year (1726) an act was passed ordering the Justices to resume the assessing of wages in this trade. Before long, however, the practice of judicially fixing rates of wages again fell into disuse, for in 1756 the workmen petitioned the Justices to declare a rate of wages in accordance with the statute; but the masters presented a counter potition, and the Justices refused. The workmen in the woollen trade were thus doubly wronged. They were prohibited from combining by the act of 1725, which was enforced, while the Justices refused to carry out the act of 1726 for determining their wages. The outcome of this situation was a strike of the weavers, which led to riots. By this strike the masters were induced to agree with the workmen, and by a new statute passed in the same year (1756) the Justices were again ordered to settle yearly the rates of wages in the woollen trade. But all manufactures were on the eve of a great change caused by the invention of improved machinery, and the resultant application of much larger capital. It now became the interest of mill owners to disregard the restrictions which for more than two centuries had been imposed upon employers with regard to the proportion of apprentices employed. The employment of great numbers of women and shildren, as well as of male adults who had not perved an apprenticeship, took the bread but of the mouths of the weavers, whose entent led in 1796 to the formation of a trade society known as the "Institution, se aim was to prevent people from carry. mg on trade in violation of long-established custom. The founders of this society do not seem to have known that the custom to which they appealed had the sanction of law, and that they might proceed in court against the transgressors of the statute passed in the fifth year of Elizabeth. They soon discovered their rights, however, and when such trade associations as the "Institution" were forbidden by laws enacted in 1799 and 1800, the workmen sontinued to combine under the cloak o friendly societies, whose purpose was the legal osecution of the violators of the statute of Elizabeth. Several employers having been sonvicted under this law, the master manufacturers petitioned Parliament for its repeal. Notwithstanding the counter petition of the workmen, the statute was suspended for ollen manufacturers for one year, and the suspension was annually renewed until 1809, when the law was partially repealed-s repeal which was made total and applicable to all trades in 1810 and 1814. Now began the darkest period in the history of English labor On the one hand the community speaking through its legislative organ forbade workmen to combine for mutual protection, and on the other placed them as regards wages at the many of the employer. Indeed, the repeal of the statute of 5 Elizabeth was expressly advo cated in Parliament on the ground that its maintenance would put the determination of the price of labor in the power of the laborers.

During the long discussion in Parliament which preceded the repeal of the statute of 5 Elizabeth the cause of the workmen was elo-quently shough vainly pleaded by Mr. Sheriden and some memorable words spoken by fulness of time. "The time will come." "when manufactures [will have been so long established, and the operatives not having any other business to fice to that it will be in the power of any one man in a town to reduce the wages. and all the other manufacturers must follow. If ever it does arrive at this pitch, Parliament, if it be not then sit-

ting, ought to be called together, and if it cannot redress your grievances its power is at an end. Tell me not that Parliament cannot—its power to protect is omnipotent." Many years were to elaces, however, before the omninotence of Parliament to protect workmen was to be asserted. As things stood in 1814 and long afterward the law refused to fix wages or regulate the hours of labor. not only did strikes and combinetions subject workmen to severe penalties, but agreements between workmen and employers with regard to wages or hours of toil were declared illegal. The laws intended to prevent the combination of workmen were, indeed. powerless to prevent the formation of secret societies, but they were strong enough to punish, and we find them put in force without mercy and often in defiance of justice. In 1805 three linen weavers were sent to Wake-field jall for three months because one of them had carried a letter to York requesting assistance from other workmen. In 1816 three carnenters were sentenced to one month's imprisonment each, and two to twelve months' each for the offence of combination. When, on the other hand, a body of earpenters pro their employers for combination, they failed to obtain a conviction, although the charge was so completely proved that the counsel for the workmen felt bound to return his fees. In another instance an employer called nineteen of his workmen together and detained them or the pretence of sending out for beer, instead of which he sent for twenty-four officers to take them into custody.

The flerce conflicts between labor and cap-

Ital resulting from the oppressive legislation procured and enforced by manufacturers did not pass altogether unheeded by public men. and in 1824 Joseph Hume obtained the appointment of a select committee of the House of Commons to consider the laws relating to workmen. The report of this committee was so outspoken in its condemnation the persecution to which workmen had been subjected that a statute passed in the same year relieved workmen from liability to punishment for engaging in peaceful combinations or strikes. Naturally workmen took the hint given them and proceeded to exercise freely their newly acquired powers. Many strikes occurred, and the Legislature, seized with a panic, withdrew by the statute of 1825 many of the concessions made to labor in the preceding year, and materially restricted the right of association. For instance, all meetings or agreements for the purpose of regulating the wages or hours of work of persons not actually present at the meeting or parties to the agreement were declared conspiracies. In fact, there was scarcely any act performed by a workman, as a member of a trade union, which, under the act of 1825 as judicially in terpreted, was not an act of conspiracy. The first great public protest against this law and the vindictive manner of enforcing it was made in 1834, when six Dorchester laborers were sentenced to seven years' transportation, ostensibly for administering unlawful oaths, but really for the crime of combination. The conviction was so manifestly unjust, and the sentence so outrageously cruel that some of the ablest men of the day condemned both in no measured terms. Ar immense demonstration took place in the Copenhagen Fields on March 21, 1834, attended, it is said, by some 400,000 persons, and a procession some six miles in length, com-posed of nearly 50,000 workmen, proceeded to the official residence of Lord Melbourne for the purpose of presenting a petition bearing 266,000 signatures on behalf of the convicted laborers. After a good deal of opposition on the part of the Whig ministry, backed as it was by the major portion of the manufacturing classes, and after much delay, the six laborers were pardoned and an order was issued for their liberation. But the whole proceedings had been cruel and cowardly, the convicted men had been hurried out of the country, and after being landed at Sydney had been literally sold as slaves at \$5 a head. Even when they were pardoned, some of them did not hear of their pardon until years afterward, and these might never have heard of it until the expiration of their sentence, had not one of them accidentally fallen across an English newspaper.

The presecution of the six Dorchester labor ers gave an immense impetus to the cause of unionism. Meetings were held all over the country, and an attempt was made to establish a national federation of all the trades-an attempt which for some time was measurably successful. But with the pardon of the con victed workmen the agitation died away. Permanent work began to take the place of spasmodic effort; the several trades applied themselves to perfecting the machinery of their respective organizations, and thenceforth it is not difficult to trace their systematic operations. From 1834 to 1842 a good deal of certed demand was made for an alteration of the existing law, although protests were raised against the methods of administering it. In 1842 and again in 1845 there were numerous strikes followed by prosecutions which provoked remonstrances. were in almost every case directed against the use made of the common law of conspiracy, whereby the masters endeavored to reach not only the perpetrators of acts held unlawful, but also the committees of the several unions. and to extend the punishment beyond the three months fixed by statute to two years un-

der the common law. In March, 1845, a society was established called the National Association of United Trades; this continued in existence until 1860. It became the mainspring of a great movement, and under its auspices a newspaper was started called the Labor League. During 1848-49 the question of systematic overtime was constantly debated, and somewhat later three great strikes on the part of the engineers, the cotton operatives, and the tin plate workers brought the whole subject of the relations of employer to employed and of the laws affecting workmen into the foreground of discussion. In 1856 a select committee of the House of Commons was appointed to inquire into

the present improved condition of the working classes in Great Britain is largely due to the efforts of the trade unions. The improvement, no doubt, has been slow, but the substantial progress effected is visible not only in material advantages (increased wages and shortened hours of label; but in social position, through the recognition of industrial rights; in political status through enfranchisement and eligibility to the highest posts open to popular election : and, finally, in constitutional rights through the repeal of repressive and disabling statutes and the passage of more just and equitable laws. Equality before the law is not only recognized as an abstract principle, but is em bodied in statutory enactments.

We have reviewed the history of trade union from their obscure beginnings as secret and illicit associations through their development into lawful and powerful societies. Let us now giance at their organization and workings. subject to which Mr. Howell has devoted his third chapter. He would define trade unions as, in their essence, voluntary associations of workmen for mutual protection and assistance in securing the most favorable conditions of labor. This is their primary and fundamental object. It includes all efforts to raise wages or to prevent a reduction of them; all attempts to curtail the hours of labor or to resist an extension of them: all endeavors to regulate matters pertaining to methods of employment and discharge and to modes of work. As trade unions have developed they have come to in clude within their purview other aims which although secondary and derivative, are im portant. At present the sphere of their action extends to almost every detail connected with the labor of the workman and the well-being of his every-day life. .

The principle upon which the associations

called trade unions are founded is obviously precisely that of a mutual assurance society the object being to enable the members to de by combination what they would otherwise be unable to effect. This purpose the societies seek to carry out by means of contributions each member of the union paying a definite weekly sum, which entitles him to all the ben efits set forth in the society's rules. The amounts vary from two pence (four cents) per week in some of the poorer trades to one shilling (twenty-five cents) per week in the engineers', botter makers' and fron shipbuilders', iron founders', carpenters', and other similar unions. It is seldom that there are two scales of payment in any one union As a rule all members pay the same sum, and are equally entitled to all the benefits for which the rules of the union provide. There are, however, a few societies which keep their trade funds and benefit funds separate. In these a member may, if he chooses, pay to the trade fund only. When this is done, it is usually by persons who before joining the trade union had become members of some other and independent friendly society. A large number of trade unions, however atill exist for trade purposes only, if we expept a burial fund, which is wall nigh universal. But the prevailing tendency smong modern trade unions is to embrace in their objects both trade and friendly benefits, thereby assuring to their members the advantages offered by the ordinary friendly society in addition to those which the trade society provides for the protection of trade interests, It is noticeable that in all cases these unions fulfil their pecuniary obligations to their members, such defalcations and failures as continunity occur in banks being almost unknown. The amount of the contribution payable

weekly has been mentioned. Mr. Howell also

furnishes a table which exhibits the benefits derivable from a few of the largest and bear organized unions. Thus the engineers and carpenters pay to sick members from ten to twelve shillings a week for twenty-six weeks and afterward from five to six shillings. On the death of a member they pay \$60, and on the death of a member's wife \$25. For an injury resulting in disablement they pay from \$250 to \$500. On superunnuation they pay from ten to seven shillings weekly. Members out of work receive from ten to six shillings a week. On strike they receive from fifteen to five shillings weekly. The out-of-work fund is one of the most effective means by which the better organized trade unions evert an indirect influence on the labor market and prevent a reduction of wages. It shields mem bers from being obliged to accept work upon inadequate terms. If, however, a man is discharged for drunkenness, or for actual misconduct on his part, he is not entitled to par-ticipate in the out-of-work fund. As each member of the society considers himself a aind of guardian of the common purse, a wholesome restraint is imposed which pro-duces a salutary effect on conduct and tends to avert any attempt at fraud. Moreover, Feach member feels it to be his duty to look out for work on behalf of those who are unemployed and who are consequently dependent on the society's funds An obvious benefit accruing from this provision to the community at large is that members of a trade union which maintains an 'out-of-work fund" are, when thrown out of employment, supported by money subscribed when the members are employed-instead o becoming a burden on the rates. Thousands of families are by these means yearly kept from pauperism. The extent to which this provision is made and the amount paid annually for the relief of out-of-work members are calculated to astonish those who suppose that trade unions are established only for the purpose of strikes. For instance, since 1851 the Boller Makers' Union has paid to members out of work (exclusive of strikes, sickness, injuries, &c.) \$3,545,000, while in the same period the Engineers' Union has paid for the same purpose nearly \$7,500,000. The "new trade unionwhose advanced section is made up of Socialists, sneer at benefits like these. They insist that trade unions should be sharply differentiated from friendly societies, and that he funds collected by the former should be exclusively devoted to the prosecution of strikes. They hold that the benefits conferred by friendly societies are obtained at the ex

strikes. They hold that the benefits conferred by friendly societies are obtained at the existing natives, but the froughty had no practical result. The builders' strike and lockout, however, which took place in London in 1895, riveted subile attention to the existing penal laws against workmen, and from that time agitation did not cease until the final repeal of those laws in 1875. In 1895 and 1896 a select committee took a large amount of evidence regarding the operation of the laws governing contracts of service between master and servants act of 1867, which virtually repealed the previous oppressive lexislation on the audioct. This act, nevertheless, had to be renewed from pear to year until 1876, when the Employers and Workmen act was substituted for it. In 1897 the trade; unions had been subjected to lassevere ordeal. A Royal Commission was appointed in that year to inquire into certain alleged outrages, and also into the organization, rules, and conduct of trade societies. Its investigation was most searching, and the outre, one is embodied in aixteen volumes. Instead, however, of a law to suppress the unions, which the masters had boosd for, this inquiry resulted in a temporary act protecting the funds of unions and legalized their measures. This was a great victor, and theneforth the agitation for the total r peal of all penal laws affecting labor became more persistent and intense, until, in 1875, a Conservative Government, siter as aging the show of resistance, granted the workmen demands. Then it was that the One persistent and intense, until, in 1876, and conservative Government, siter as aging the show of resistance, granted the workmen demands. Then it was that the One persistent and intense, until, in 1876, and conservative Government, siter as aging the show of resistance, granted the workmen demands. Then it was that the One persistent and intense, until, in 1876, a Conservative Bovernment, siter as aging the show of resistance, granted the workmen demands. Then it was that the One persistent

PORMS WORTH READING.

From the Churchesen.
Above the world it seems—this House of God.
Beside its waits—the recen and desired sed.
Beneath—the woods and incadows creading far.
On either side the mountains form a wait.
Alone it stands—title some bright guiding eter
berenely shedding light and joy o'er all.

Reares to Heaven it seems—we climb the hill And at the prospect soul and being thrill. The write words less below at peace and rest, Beyond the waters of Lake Assumer roll. And that same wind that effect the water's bree Britings were terreshment to the weary soul. Nature and God are one—and as we kneel the Holy Spirit a indusine we feel. There no descordant note—the singing bird That carels merriy estade the door Distribeth not the reading of the Word— There is a harmony not known before.

The perfect Peace of God for which we pray seems to be with me on our homeward way, And as we look ushind, the church of stone, Escircied by the earth's meet ancient nills. A bove the mountains, seems to stand alone. The while its shadow all the valley fills. HOLDERNESS, N. II. PLAYEL SCOTY MINES.

Cardinal Newman,

'To the last I mever recognised the hold I had over men."—Apologia pro Vila Sua, From the Catholic World. No more the con may know the strength it hath. To sure the bark in spring with underling blood; Ne more a storm controls its giant wrath. Or knows the measure of its scattered flood! There is a quality of lasting youth
That knoweth not the force that gave it birth;
Seme sonis God points the sublict ways of truth
As highest tribute to their lasting worth.

He hath in souls like thins deposited A quenchless flame as caim and strong as dawn; Across the world thy petent fire is shed. Bern of the "kindly light" that leads thes out

MEREDITH NICE The Summer Man, From the Boston Evening Transcript.
The number girl adds yearly seat
To caragraphers lance,
But why not change the theme, and give
The number man a chance!

That desolate, neglected wratch, Whose wife and cultilizen roam By mountain streams or curing surf. While he stands guard at home,

Where empty rooms italicize
The voiceless alient place.
And miliers fit, unchallenged, by
To disappear in space. Imagination falsely paints
The freedom of his way—
Amusementa dinners and the like,
With voyages down the bay.

That liberty which thrills to feel
The carb of home removed.
And rove at will without restraint
In paths not quite approved. Where latch key a click strikes no remerse linwayer late the nour. And solitude alone holds away Within my lady's bower.

Winds my loop romance pricks, its bubble is a sham;
A selemn, lone, domestic tramp—
Heaven help the summer man;
J. B. Alders,

Enough or Kissing.

Aid me, ye muses nite, and eke ye graces!
While Pegasus I mount and try his peres;
Wy theme a kiss-or say a thousand kisses.
My theme a kiss-or say a thousand kisses.
My theme a kiss-or say a thousand kisses.
Yet, not to praise, but to denounce them this is.
Lovers may kiss, at least in mourration;
Kon kissing husbands wake my indignation;
To kissing babies i do much incline.
Especially if the darling cherub's mineTheir laughing libs oakase the only nectar—
But from promisecuous kissing heaven protect, or
Give us real. Worthless the gift that's shared with size
Too many aweets upon our paistes pail.
Declare, O muses whence sprung this foolish fashion.
Was 't English ourn, or Dutch' Marhap Circassian!
Fashion, in all things else a fickle jade.
By Aedes and Persians. I em the mode of dancing—
From stately minused to grider modern prancing—
Valent and the state of the th From the Bound Tuble.

They dealt in bows and gilden we favor huge and iny desti in jumps.

all fashion, thus to one thing constant never,
this atome, brooklike, flow on forever?
one; tirel, as the Wandering Jew of travel,
ke bim, we can't leave off—and there's the marvel—
it kiss when we come, and kiss whom we go,
iss at the church and kiss at the show; liss at the church and size at the show; in joy or sorrow, traible or biles, "e begin with a buss, and we end with a kiss! When breaths are ever fragrant found as roses, and pure white teeth each parting lip discloses, "I still object to this contact of noses. It makes one feel so like a hypocrite taloring those we'd rather not have met. Wouldet show more warmth than shake of hand expressed.

preses! Why not adopt the Mexican caresces! Gentive mbrace the friends who wish to greet us, and tap the shoulder, with the senoritas. For nearest kindred lefts reserve our lips, Shake hands with friends (nor give our finger tips), Sisters, I pray let's make this new beginning, and once again each hiss shall have a meaning.

The Progress of Humanity, Dr. Juenemann has compounded a duid which, in his opinion, is desined suffraly to revolutionise modern warfare, and put a top, to the horrible carnage with which wars are at present previably conducted. His plan as to burst a shell containing this fluid, which, on liberation, is converted into a can under the effect of which every living helm within a considerable space becomes unconscious, and remains so for two or three

Near the nineteenth cantury's closing (All the world in peace reposing) fluidenly the rumor ran. "War's grim horrors felt too often, Good Jenemann will seften." (Please pronounce "You aby-man".)

"Now he's made the thing a study, War will cease from being bloody, And will only cause a smell. Blessings then, on modern science, And its less humans appliance, The narcotic vapor shell.

"Boom of gun and rifle's rattle
Shall no more be heard in battle,
Once the Doctor's shell has burst;
All the interest will be focused
On the question. Who are hocused
By their adversaries first?

Saftly these will sink to slumber, While their weapons, useless lumber, A; their feet abandoned lie, Which secured and piled, the others, will approach their sleeping brothers, and restoratives apply.

Waken, brethren, foes no longer, Stronger thus, and ever stronger, Will arise the frandly shoul. 'Ended ere we'd well began it Is the fight; our shell has won it; how be yours the shelling out.' "Blessings, then, on modern science For its less humane appliance, And on him who framed the plan War's no tours a bratal estime." So they raised a stately statue To the good Juenemann.

Tears rolled on and times grew milder, All the primitive and wider Human presions and to rest; and the public admiration for the Doctor's innovation Was less heartily expressed.

Hen began to view with coldness One who with such callous boidness Could an army drug by stealing. Careless, his designs parating. How much harm he might be doing To that army's future health.

"How could be," in accents freful Murmared ties, "be thus forgetful Wrapped in his uncerupulous art. That the ride or the sabre May be berne by men who labor With affections of the heart? "Some, perchance may not recover, All of them are bound to suffer In the body or the mind. More or less from that resolten Which narcotte superfaction Aimost always leaves behind."

So the local papers trounced him. Orowds assembled and denounced him. Till they made their victin flinch. Emashed his windows byoke his image. Mobbed him to an only seriumage. Threatened him with Justice Lynch.

Then the conscisnos stricken Doctor, Doutsful whether to be shecked or Furious at his altered plight, Making Dut a weak consention For his devilish invention. Gave it up and took to flight. Fied beyond his country's border, Entered a monastic order, For his life's remaining span; and from all his fellows parted, Lingwied on, a broken-hearted, Fentlent Jocumana.

> Madrigal, From the West, If my love shall prove unkind.
> How may I reprove her;
> Shall it eller all my mind;
> Will its pleading move her;
> Or would stience golden be
> in my heart's mute anguish;
> Might she ness still careless be
> Though my love did languish;

If I, kneeling at her feet,
Teil my heart's desire.
Will her heart in union beak
Moved by love a true fire I
Might she not mistake my sens
Bid me sease my weeling
Be well all my elequence
Be mine own undeling.

Better now than later know
If my wooding glease her;
She may love me never, though
I might longer lease ber.
Then no more will felay;
Brave hearts do not tarry;
I win ask my love to day;
If alse will not marry.

From the Cupe Old Res The weather daily cociar grows, The season's drawing to a ciuce. The profty dampel in pique Appears not in the beach to-day, Anjoring there a needday stretl Beneath a grimgon parasol With sprightly step and charming sir. Fresh from the bath to dry her bair. For she is tack again to town. And having doffed her sesside gown. is hard at work in the saloon. Where you may hear her voice at neon As she in silvery accepts galles. Boas beaffriediregalishballer

DANIEL WEBSTER'S MORAL CHARACTER Windlented by an Intimate Friend.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Having in a former paper said all I wish to say in vindication of Mr. Webster's political conduct in 1850. I will now add that if any one wishes to read a fair and candid estimate of his course. by a Republican writer, he will find one in the second volume of Mr. Blaine's "Twenty Years of Congress." On the whole, I have never read one that is more just. I shall now perform a duty which I have deferred too long, the duty of defending Webster's moral character against certain Imputations which have been with painful regret believed by many persons who recognize his intellectual greatness and his public services, and of which the minds of younger generations ought to be disabused. No man's memory should be allowed to rest under charges of vice and immorality which have no just foundation. The first charge that I shall notice is that Mr. Webster was an intemperate man: so

much addicted to liquor that he might have

been called a drunkard, and that his habits in

this respect often impaired his intellectual

faculties, and at length shortened his life.

There are different standards of temperance

and intemperance. To the "testotaller," the

believer in total abstinence, any men is intern-

all. It would be absurd to apply this definition of intemperance to any man of Mr. Webster's time or of any other time. He was by no means a total-abstinence man. He drank wine and sometimes brandy, as other gentlemen did in his generation. Nevertheless, he was not an intemperate man, and in saying this I shall tell exactly what I know and what I observed in a long and intimate acquaintance with him. I have seen Mr. Webster when he had been dining out at a private house or at a public dinner, and when he had taken too much wine, but I never saw him intoxicated. although I have seen him on occasions of high festivity when his animal spirits, the custom of drinking healths, and the manners of the time, sometimes led him to drink more wine than was prudent. At his own table wine was always served, generally Madeira of excellent quality, but he did not take it immoderstely. He did not drink champagne because he did not consider it a wholesome beverage and he had no love for it. In regard to ardent spirits, the following statements are strictly true. Mr. Webster sometimes drank brandy, but when he was well he did not use more brandy than other gentlemen did at that time. Whiskey, as a safe and wholesome beverage was not much used in those days. At one period in his life Mr. Webster was advised by a physican in Washington to use brandy and sugar to check the symptoms of a disorder to which he was subject. Such advice would not be given now, as there are better remedies, Following this advice, Mr. Webster, when he had an attack of that complaint, used brandy and sugar as a corrective, and he used it somewhat freely, as he and his physician considered it necessary for him to do. At no time did he ever impair his intellectual powers by a habit of intemperate drinking; and I have heard it remarked by a shrewd observer, that if any one will take Webster's writings, speeches, or arguments, and study them attentively, he will see that they could not have been the profuctions of a man who was habitually intemperate. He was in the habit of rising at 4 o'clock in the morning, even in winter, lighting his own fire, and doing his intellectual work before breakfast. No man can do this habitually and all through his life who is habitually intemperate in the use of spirits or wine. There may be a differ ance of opinion about stimulants as helps to intellectual efforts; but Mr. Webster never used such helps. The stories that have been told of his being intoxicated on certain occasions are gross exaggerations. There was one occasion in the Senate, an all-night session, when many of the members made use of stimulants to sustain what they had to endure, and when Mr. Webster spoke to the question that was before the Senate he was under the influence of too much stimulant. There was another occasion, in Roch ester, when he had to make a speech in the open air to a great assembly, and when some one gave him some very bad liquor, of the kind that is drugged. He was reported to have said something very absurd about the Genesee Falls, but when the measurement that he gave of the fall of water was compared with the said afterward that he was a little "flustered" by the bad whiskey that had been given to him It was often necessary for him, especially when speaking in the open air, to moisten his vocal organs with a little water. A tin tumbler had been placed on the little table at his side, and thinking it contained water, he raised it to his

1 submit these facts to the judgment of did men, who know what the habits of life were in Mr. Webster's day. He can with no more propriety be said to have been an intemperate man than hundreds of other men against whom such a charge has never been made, but who drank both wine and spirits quite as much as he did. His death was caused by a complication of disorders which were neither produced nor aggravated by his personal habits of living. This was plainly revealed by the autopsy, conducted by very eminent surgeons. The principal derangement of his organs was caused by a fall from an open carriage when he was driving near Marsh. field, and when his carriage broke down and he was thrown violently to ground. This was in the spring of 1852. I was with him a great deal that summer after the accident, and I know that he never recovered from the effects of it, although he did return to Washington for a short time at the urgent request of President Fill-more. After his death his great brain was removed from the skull by the surgeons, weighed, and examined. It was found that a false membrane had formed around a part of the brain. which, if he had lived much longer, would in all probability have impaired his intellectual powers. They never were impaired in any de gree, as was proved by his grand and impressive death, which I witnessed and have do. scribed in my life of him. No death of any merely human being since that of Socrates was so majestic and evinced such a marvellous power of the mind over a suffering body

what it contained

There is a writer somewhere in Massachusetts who is known under the pseudonymn of "Eli Perkins." I have been told that "Eli Perkins" recently published a statement that Mr. Webster, just before his death, called out George, pass the brandy bottle;" and that his "good friend George Ticknor Curtis," who was present, instead of passing the brandy bottle, invented for his dving friend the saying: "I still live," This fiction of Mr. Eli Perkins's" was addressed to the believers in Mr. Webster's intemperate habits. There were present in Mr. Webster's chamber all night, until he died, eight or ten persons. ladies and centlemen, and two eminent physi plans. The existence of a brandy bottle at such a time, in the chamber of a dying man, is a pretence that need not impose upon any one. The saying, "I still live," could not have been conceived by any bystander. The true circumstances surrounding that celebrated utterance of the dying statesman are stated in full detail in my life of him. The saying was learned from some of those who were present by a reporter for a Boston paper, and it was published in the Boston papers on the following morning an express having been started for city as soon as Mr. Webster brouthed his last breath. Perhaps I ought to applogize to your readers for noticing anything that comes from s professed "humorist." But I cannot know now many readers will be disposed to credit opsense of any kind.

I shall now notice the charge that Mr. Webster was a licentious man, a charge that has, perhaps, troubled more persons than the charge of his intemperance. On this subject too, I shall speak with perfect plainness. I not only do not believe that Mr. Webster was a man who had improper relations with women. but I think I can adduce evidence that will refute the charge entirely, because I have inand found him putting on his overcoat

told of him during his life or after his death, and in each instance I found that it was a mere calumny. He was tond of the society of ladies, and any lady, married or single, might weil feel flattered by his attentions. Mr. Webster's first wife, a very lovely woman, died in 1828. It never was said, to my knowledge, that he was unfaithful to her, and in reference to his early days, before his first marriage, there never was any scandal about him. After the death of the first Mrs. Webster he boarded in Washington in the same house with a lady and her husband, whom I shall only designate as Mr. and Mrs. A-... The husband was a political writer of considerable accomplishment, employed on a paper in Washington, and a scholarlike man. The lady was an attractive and handsome woman. A friendship grew up between Mr. Webster and Mrs. A.—. Pretty soon it was rumored in Washington that there were improper relations between Mr. Webster and this To speak plainly, it was said that she was his mistress and that her husband conpived at the connection. At that time I was 16 years old, and if I heard of such things I could know nothing about them. When I was 30 I became known to Mr. Webster, and I was much noticed by him. From that time I knew him intimately until his death in the autumn of 1852. During all those years I never heard perate who touches wine or ardent spirits at any imputation upon his moral character in reference to the other sex, but after his death I heard of this old Washington about Mrs. A-. I inquired scandal of several of Mr. Webster's contemporaries and friends, and was told that they heard of it at the time, but that there was nothing in it. When Mr. Webster's private papers came into my hands, and I was about to write his life, in the year 1868, I found that everything had been arranged in chronological order by Mr. Edward Everett, who was the first named of Mr. Webster's literary executors, I being the last named and the youngest. My first examination was of the correspondence; and when I opened the chest containing the papers, the first name that my eye fell upon was that of Mr. and Mrs. A—, I took out a large bundle of letters, all duly ticketed and labelled with the names of Mr. and Mrs. A-, and read them all through from beginning to end. They showed on the part of this lady the beginning and progress of a friendship that must have been peculiarly gratifying to Mr. Webster at a time when female sympathy was important to him, and they also showed that the lady was unmistakably an accomplished, an agreeable, and a virtuous woman, The letters of Mr. A- to Mr. Webster contained the strongest internal evidence that he was not a man who could have connived at his wife's want of virtue. This proof I considered as quite sufficient to explode the old Washington scandal. But I did not rest there. I made inquiries among Mr. Webster's friends in Boston, and I found that in the summer of 1820 Mrs. A-visited Boston, and was received and entertained at the house of a kinsman of Mr. Webster's at Nahant, as any friend of his would have been. The friendship was well known, but no one imagined that there was anything more, and no one would have tolerated the suggestion that there was anything objectionable in the lady's character or in Mr. Webster's relations with her.

restigated every tangible story that was ever

Mr. and Mrs. A- have long been dead. Indeed. I think they died or left this country (they were English) before the death of Mr. Webster. If their letters to him were now extant I should publish them. But they were destroyed in a fire some years ago, in which I lost my library and a great mass of private Dapers.

There was a much worse scandal put in cir-

culation by some newspaper writer at the time when Mr. Webster was Secretary of State in President Tyler's administration. This story was that a certain female of respectable character called at the department one day on business, and was shown into Mr. Webster's private room; that after conversing with her for some time he locked the door and attempted an indecen; assault upon her. The lie was told with so much circumstance that it was necessary to meet it. There was but one way in which it could be met. By the advice of friends Mr. Webster went before a magistrate and made and subscribed an affidavit declaring that the whole story was false in every particular and every sense. The affidavit was published. I remember it dis-tinctly, and once had a copy of it, but it was destroyed with other papers at the time above mentioned. In writing the life of Mr. Webster I did not notice these scandal that I have now refuted, and I will take this occasion to say why I did not. I felt that it would be a kind of indignity offered to my readers to allude to such imputations, when many of my readers must be persons who know Mr. Webster as well as I did. But he has lips and drank from it before he perceived now been dead for nearly forty years, and it is wenty years or thereabouts since my life of to be sold and to have new readers. It has been reduced in price, in order to give it a wider circulation. My reason for noticing these imputations now is that I am often asked my belief about them by persons who never saw Mr. Webster, and who have felt troubled by what they have heard. I now give to the public my personal belief, and my reasons for it. The reputation and character of such a man as Daniel Webster are a national posses sion, and no just mind will be disposed to doubt that my testimony is of some importance, in regard to a man whom I knew intimately for more than twenty years. I have had to refute charges that are sometimes vaguely and obscurely made, and sometimes are specifically and circumstantially repeated, I trust that I have done it thoroughly, and once for all. I have done it in order to save myself the trouble of answering personal inquiries that are frequently made of me.

> loose in their conversation, at times. It is hardly possible for an impure man to be at all times pure in his conversational habits. If he does not himself indulge in loose and ribald talk, he will tolerate it in others. Webster not only never was heard to say anything indecent or indelicate himself, but he never could endure to hear it from anyone else. I never knew the man who could say that he had even uttered a double-entendre Mr. Webster's presence without being rebuked for it. In this respect my great friend was the most delicate person that I ever knew-as delicate as the purest woman. I have a theory that indelicate conversation is incompatible with greatness of intellect; and if this has not been always true of men of great intellect it certainly was true of Mr. Webster, yet I have seen him in companies in which he was under no restraint excepting that which his own feeling about such things imposed upon him. In illustration of this trait in his character I shall now relate an aneodote that was told to me by a gentleman who was present when the incident occurred. There was a knot of leading Whigs in New York who were known as Mr. Webster's special friends. One of these

who was often invited to dinners because he "good stories." as they are sometime called. There were no ladies at the table. After the wine had circulated pretty freely the host very indiscreetly called upon this man for a story. The racouleur then begun a story, and it som appeared that there was a woman in it. My informant said that as the story proceeded Mr. Webster's great eyes retreated into their sockets, and his brow became darkened by a terrific scowl. The end and point of the story were very witty and very indecent, but no laugh followed. Every one was awed by Mr. Webster's looks. As soon es the story was finished he rose from his chair, looked all around the table until he caught the eye of every one, and then, with out saying a word, walked quickly out of the dining

gentlemen, a man or wealth who lived in a fine

house on the corner of Fourteenth street and

University place, gave a large dinner party to

Mr. Webster. Among the gueste was a man

Webster," he said, "I hope you are not going to leave us; our friend Mr. bad he going to searce out that particular story, I am sure." Mr. Webster turned upon him with a frown, and said, "Sir. If that story had been frown and said. Our dinner table is Boston, told at any respectable dinner table is Boston, the window would have been opened and the the window would have been pitched into the street, man would have been pitched into the street, Good night, sir?" He then put on his hat Good night, str." He then put on his hat walked to the corner of Broadway, got into an omnibus and went down to the Astor House where he always stayed when he was in New where he always stated whether was in New York. Constornation filled the whole circle of his friends who had been present at the dinner. The next morning, the gentleman who had The next morning, the gentluman who had been so unceremoniously left by Mr. Webess in the hall called upon him and begged him to allow him to ask Mr. —, his host of the pevious evening, to come down to the Assertions and play a game of whist, with Mr. Webster as his partner, saving that he would himself take the fourth hand. "Oh. res." said Mr. Webster, "let him come." As political men, the gentlemen who were at the dinner did not wish to have a quarrel with Mr. Web ster. Your readers can judge whether I am ceptional man in not tolerating indecess conversation or indecent stories. There is an historical personage in our political annals, of great celebrity, who was in the habit of using as illustrations of anything he wished to enforce, the most quaint but indelicate stories and ansedotes. Sometimes they were extremely fliths, I yield to no one in my estimate of that person public services, but I never could feel that his stories were adapted to any but the lowest class of minds, and I wish that this blemish did not rest upon his character. In my opinion, he did injustice to his own intellect by resorting to such illustrations, and his intellect was certainly a very strong one. A great mind does not need such means of enforcing what it has to say. To sober and thinking people they detract greatly from the estimation in which a man is held. The lesson that I would inculcate upon young men is that such a habit is unworthy of a gentleman. always diminishes the respect in which a man ought to be held, and it injures the man in his own esteem. Burns has pointed the truth in the

For oh, it hardens all within, But the distinguished person to whom I have alluded was never believed to be a man of in-

regular or impure life in any respect. He con-

tracted the habit of telling stories that were

sometimes grossly indecent. in his early life,

some of which was passed among persons whose conversationiwas vulgar and immodest. Mg. Webster was never thrown into such associations at any period in his life. If he had ever had the habit, which I have condemned and of which he cannot be accused, no one could have pleaded in its extenuation that he contracted it, as some other men did, in early life, I am by no means disposed to say that Webster's great intellect and unsurpassed services to his country ought to excuse him for any vice or immorality; nor do I claim for him that he was a perfect character. He had the ordinary failings of human nature, but nonof them were such as led him into victous and immoral indulgences. His ambition was no of the kind that would make him aim to reach the Presidency by pandering to the prejudice and sectional interests of one part of the country. Emerson said of him that to gain the Presidency he sacrificed wealth, ease, pleasure, happiness, and, finally, honor and truth. His honor and his truth can never be impeached. They may be left to the candid judgment of those who will read his history impartially, and they should not be judged by a diatribe from a man who i mpute to his blood a taint that could have existed only in a devil. He certainly did sacrified wealth, or the opportunities of earning wealth in order to serve his country. But he never sacrificed his happiness. He suffered mon than his share of ordinary sorrows and afflictions, but, on the whole, his life was as happy a one as commonly falls to the lot of men whose inclinations, genius, and sense of duty lead them to do all the good they can in public stations. I never thought that he made more than one mistake in his public career. After he made the treaty with England and after he left Presiden Tyler's Cabinet, I think it would have been better for him if he had remained out of public life for some years. If he had done so, he would, when occasion required him to say anything, have swayed public opinion more than any other man ever did save Washington. But he was persuaded to return to the Senate in 1883 by a constituency whose wishes he could not disregard. He remained in the Senate until 1850; and then came the crisis in which. on the 7th day of March in that year, he performed, at the age of 68. a public service that was second only to that which won for him, at stitution," in his great speech against Nollification. That he could not become President, by conciliating the South, was just as apparent to him in March, 1850, as it is now to all

men who know the political situation of the country at that period. GEORGE TICENOR CURTER Aug. 28.

OREDIENCE TO THE DEATH.

A Delectable Assectate of Napoleon, the Czar, and the Prussian King. The editor of Gil Blas, in his last issue. ouches for the truth of this story: Napoleon L was entertaining the Czar Alexander and the Prussian King at breakfast in Tilsit, when the conversation turned on lovelty "My soldiers obey me blindiy," said the Czar.

"And mine are anxious to die for me," added Napoleon.

I shall now mention a trait in Mr. Webster's At the auggestion of the Prussian King a test character which is to my mind very strong of devotion was agreed upon. The royal party were breakfasting in the fifth story of a buildproof, of a secondary kind, that he was not an unchaste man. It may be set down as a truth ing that faced a paved street. Each member that men who are loose in their lives will be was to call in one of his soldiers and command him to jump from the window. Napoleon made the first test.

"Call the Gardiste Marcau." he commanded. and Marcau appeared. "Will you obey any order I give you?" asked Napoleon.

"Yes, sire." "Blindly, whatever it is?"

"Blindly, sire," "Then jump out of that window."

"But I have a wife and two children, eire." "I will care for them. Forward" And the Gardiste Marcau, with a military salute, walked to the window and leaped out.
"Call a private of the body guard "ordered the Czar, whose turn came next. The soldier appears."

What's your name?" "Ivan Ivanovitch."
"Well Ivan just throw yourself out of that

will tran just throw yourself our window."

'es. father," answered the guardsman, and he did it.

"Commend the bravest of my soldiers to come here." said the Prussian king to his yervant. A six-foot ublan, with a row of orders across his breast and a sear on his forehead. entered. oreset and a sear on his foreness, entered. "My friend," explained the King, "to show their loyalty a French and a Russian guardsman have jumped at command from that window, Have you the plunk to do the same?"

[18] If for the Fatherland?"

"No."
"Then I refuse to do it."
Gil files this aneedote contains a fine
lesson for German army officers of the present

800 Murders a Tear, From the Bleetrical Bertens.

In Texas we have about 800 murders committed yearly. Under this mischlevous srupathy we hardly ever find a jury that has the manisted said the courage to pass the scheice of least, on a criminal that may have murdered one of his schew beings in the most abouting manner. They not only ture loves a dangerous man on society, but he may afterward he ifonned for the very crime he committed. To show to what a dangerous strent this is carried out. I have only to refer to the city of Austin. Reversal years ago there was a ruman that was the terror of the place after stilling about a dozen men. It appears from the fact that he had such a foreidable second he was elected by the people as Marshallet the city. And it is said he made a vory good Marshallet he aame town a vious it discussed to the course and the same town a vious it discussed to the fact that he had a continuous ordered the manner of the course and the same town a vious it discussed to the fact that he had a continuous deed of fourse, after same time, he was neglitted. room. One gentleman who was particularly intimete with him followed him into the hall and found him putting on his overcost. "Mr. Averie. Tex.